

LECTURE BY JOHN M. TUTT, C.S.B., HEARD MONDAY NIGHT DRAWS LARGE CROWD

A LECTURE ON Christian Science

Christian Science: The Revelation of Man's Infinite Capacities

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A member of The Christian Science Board of Lectureship of The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in

There stands today, in the heart of America, a simple shaft of red granite which marks the starting point, at Westport on the Santa Fe trail, where, in pioneer days, the great caravans of covered wagons began their arduous trek across the mountains and deserts to California, two thousand miles away. For many years the covered wagon, though requiring months upon months of travel with untold hardships, was the fastest transportation from the land of the orange grove to the land of the pine. Then came the iron horse, and over the shining rails the caravan might traverse in a few days that same trail. Improvements in rail transportation further shortened the time until the journey came to be a mere matter of mere forty-eight hours. But man was still not satisfied, always chafing at the restraining limits even of railroad speed. At last came air navigation. Today one may take off from Kansas City any morning, in a luxurious airplane, and be in Los Angeles only eleven hours later. Does anyone limit the shortening of time between those cities has reached a final limit? Already we are assured that by rising to great altitudes the speed of ships may be increased so that the same air-journey will be reduced to two hours. But will the air continue to completely annihilate time and space whilst accepting them as facts for no matter how fast he goes, he must consume some portion of time in the process of covering space. Obviously, physical science is not adequate for the realization of the ultimate of man's indomitable progression against the barriers of time and space.

More than sixty years ago, a lone woman, Mary Baker Eddy, through reason and spiritual revelation, transcended the bounds of physical science and discovered, in Christian metaphysics, the Principle, the Christ and the practice of the annihilation of the limitations of time and space—theory which Christ Jesus practiced when he, instead of going from place to place, was instantly where he wished to be. This discovery revealed that Jesus made use of exact provable truth. Therefore Mrs. Eddy called her discovery Christian Science. In Christian Science she saw further that since Christ Jesus is the Way—the example for all mankind—the progress, when man's complete mastery of time, space, and all other limitations will be attained and every man will find himself self-conscious, and able to prove, his reflected omnipresence and dominion over all.

I now invite you to a consideration of man's infinite capacities, as revealed in Christian Science, and of his rightful dominion over the opposing forces of limitation. I offer as the sole authorities for what I shall say, the Bible, and the Christian Science text-book, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures," together with other writings by its author, Mary Baker Eddy.

The infinite is that which is unlimited in time and space. Such a definition eliminates matter from infinity and points to matter's opposite, "spirit," or time and space, as alone fully infinite. "Time is the supposed distance between material events. Space is the supposed distance between material objects. Therefore, that which is unlimited in time and space must be without distance, that is, must be eternal, and eternally present. Hence cannot be matter nor material. Conclusively, the infinite must be spiritual, or divinely mental, and so must be infinitely intelligent. That Principle which is infinitely intelligent must be intelligence itself, or infinite Mind, the Christian Science text-book defines intelligence thus: "Substance; self-existent and eternal Mind; that which is never unconscious nor limited." (p. 588).

Mind and Man. Here let us consider a statement of Mind as found in Science and Health (p. 591): "The only I, or Us, is not alone which is in man, but the divine Principle, or God, of whom man is the full and perfect expression; Dearly, which outlines but is not outlined." "The only I, or Us," so far from being a grammatical error, alludes to the scriptural reference to Deity as Elohim, a plural word, the self-contained creator, or Father-Mother, declaring, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." "The only I, or Us," is also a statement of true being, implying the oneness in quality of God and man, the unity and inseparability of the divinity, of cause and effect. Neither cause nor effect exists alone, but they exist always conjointly as one being, yet distinct as Mind and man, God and His thoughts.

Man is therefore the outline, or expression of God. To limit that outline is to limit God. But say you, how can man be outline, or object, and yet be unlimited, infinite, unbounded? That seeming paradox is explainable on the very ground that man is idea, and so is a mental form, or image of Mind. A mental form has no relation to space or time. It is everywhere and equally present, even as Mind is ever present. Man, the compound image of God, or Mind, is comprised in Mind's infinite capacities expressed. Man's infinite capacities are possible and actual to man, then, because he is the expression of divine Mind. Of man's infinite capacities Christ Jesus said: "All things that the Father hath are mine." Thus we see that man's infinite capacities are wholly mental and are comprised in his conscious identity with the infinite Mind; that man has unlimited capacity to apprehend thought, and ability to know; that he is conscious of himself, of God, and of the lesser ideas which combine to make up man. Such full and perfect consciousness includes God's lesser ideas, or ideas less than the whole, and finally, complete dominion over the compound of all ideas—God-given dominion, that is, over himself. Thus equipped, man is unlimited in any direction of good, having unchallenged dominion throughout the realm of reality. But, it may be pointed out, there are opposing claims of limitation which obtain in the realm of the finite. Indeed, there appear to be, but in that realm of matter only.

However, a righteous law governs both the law-abiding and the law-breaking capacity, the latter in a corrective sense. Hence salvation is both a condition—the condition of state of perfect being and doing—and also a process of restoration. The first aspect is absolute, the second is relative. The healing and saving effect of Christ, the idea of Truth, acting on the false beliefs of body and mind. And thus man's infinite capacities are fully active and potent in the realm of reality, and equally so against all false claims, or lies of limitation about man's goodness, perfection, spirituality, permanence—in short, against all that is unlike God and His man, all that is unlike true being and true selfhood.

Human Limitations. Human limitations may be said to comprise the entirety of error, a sense of finity opposed to the spiritual sense of infinity, and that conclusion is in time as "Mortal measurements; limitations, in which are summed up all human acts, thoughts, beliefs, opinions, knowledge; matter; error." (S. and H., p. 595). Thus the whole drama of error is played upon the false stage of time; and time, together with its allied falsity, space, hedges about human achievement, holding within its confines the inescapable failure so vividly pictured by the Psalmist: "The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength we be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away." Christian Science points the only way of escape from the limitations of time and space. It realizes the further words of Moses in the same Psalm: "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." Christian Science brings the recognition of the shackles-breaking truth that in the reality of being there is no past and no future, because there is no time, and that the present is the presence of God and His idea, man. In the presence of God we realize presence, yes, co-existence, untrammelled by the belief of beginning or fear of ending. Presence indicates that which is present, that is, things already bestowed.

Christ, Truth, is the day which will remove the limitations of time and sense we recognize. "All things to us are given. Health, hope, and joys of heaven. All things to us are given. Gifts of Thy love." (Hymn 159, Christian Science Hymnal). The Awakening. Thus we have established in thought the eternal presence and all-power of the Mind and its ideas, man and the universe—a continuous unfolding, unlimited and active, man, the spiritual idea, as Mrs. Eddy puts it: (Science and Health, p. 253): "Forever developing itself. . . rising higher and higher from a base." To such are the infinite capacities of Mind and man. Opposed to these great facts of being is the lie of limitation, the meagerism of the confusion of time and space. Into the confusion, mortal mind plunges the so-called man it makes, and from that man the seeming lie of limitation, mortal man needs to be awakened. It is the function of Christian Science to befriended mortal man from the machinations of mortal mind. This awakening Mrs. Eddy sets forth on page 266 of Science and Health: "Science reveals the possibility of achievement all good, and sets mortals at work to discover what God has already done; but distrust of one's ability to gain the goodness desired and to bring out better and higher results, often hampers the trial of one's wings and ensures the failure of the quest." To throw off limitations, then, and to gain the goodness so much desired, we need to enlarge our trust in God, its reality, presence, power and availability. Jesus, our example, knew no limitation of good, nor of the sense of limitation, to him shall be given. "For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance; but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that which he hath." My friend, this paraphrase is also true: For whosoever hath a sense of limitation, to him shall be given, and he shall have a great measure thereof; but whosoever hath not fear of limitation, from him shall be taken away the limited sense that he hath.

The epitome of Christian Science may be stated in the promises of the Scriptures found from Genesis to Revelation: "He that overcometh shall inherit all things." Human capacities and abilities are enlarged as the sense of limitation is overcome and supplanted in human consciousness by an understanding of the allness of God and His creation. The sense of limitation would seem to block every aspect of human life did we not know that all power is of God, Mind; and progress is measured directly as the barrier reefs are blasted out or circumvented. Error claims man to be limited in almost all respects, but the Bible avers that God gave man dominion over all the earth.

Let us then consider some of the requirements for the awakening: First it is essential to have or acquire self-confidence, proper self-estimation. God's man is fearless, confident, successful, meek. He knows his abilities and capacities, his achievements; and knowing them, gives all the power and glory to the divine Principle of which

man is the true reflection or expression. Since man is the expression of God, man, by reflection, is possessed of all that the Father has. "The timid soul" needs but to know that fact to break the bonds of limitation. Remember: "I can be the son of I am;" and Mrs. Eddy's line in the text-book (Science and Health, p. 199): "The devotion of thought to an honest achievement makes the achievement possible." Confidence, then, and a proper estimation of ability to achieve presage the awakening from the false dream.

How often do we long to be free from responsibilities—just to do nothing; as the poet Riley tells it, "to just get out and rest and not work at nothing else." But we should remember that if we could do nothing, we should be nothing, for all beings are expressed by nothing, for all beings are expressed by activity. We know these things, happy are ye if ye do them. The cure for lethargy, apathy, inertia, laziness of mind and body, is right activity. In a paraphrase: To do, or not to do, that is the question. To do, is to do mentally and physically in good, intelligence, in thinking, in working, is destructive to the mesmerism of torpor, indecision, and inefficiency. Right activity removes an important stumbling block; it clears the vision that overcomes the false. True being is unfully active and potent in the realm of reality, and equally so against all false claims, or lies of limitation about man's goodness, perfection, spirituality, permanence—in short, against all that is unlike God and His man, all that is unlike true being and true selfhood.

Envisioned of the possibilities of achieving all good, confident that we can succeed, we turn to the task of putting off limitation to find: (I quote from Science and Health, p. 233) "The false belief that man's finite capacity is forged by the illusion that he lives in body instead of in Soul, in matter instead of in Spirit." To break these fetters is our task, a task not hard when we consider the illusory character of the bonds. The old adage has it, "seeing is believing." But in Christian Science we learn that believing is seeing. We recall the saying "out of sight is out of mind," but actually, out of mind is out of sight, for we cannot see or hear of what we do not believe. A limited state of body, mind, or purse is at least a limited state of thought, sometimes consciously held, sometimes tacitly. Remember that all things are states of mind. Christian Science resolves all physical, financial and other limitations into mental ones. It rejects such false mental limitations as lies, and replaces the false concepts with right ideas, even realization of man's infinite capacities. Because the human body is the expression of the human mind, such evolved mental states correct the body and the body corrects the mind. There is a popular saying with a refrain that runs, "It's my mind, I can change it." We should be sure when we change our mind it is God that changes it. When the new word of Truth comes in and the old word is rejected, the change is always for the better. Human mind-changing can never be right; but mind-changing under divine intelligence must be good always. That change of mind is the answer to prayer.

Let us hear the cry of this whole matter of man's infinite capacities and the lie of limitation: Never acknowledge a handicap! To encounter obstacles along life's highway calls for attention and removal of them, but not for recognition of them as handicaps. If at all by our own thoughts, for mortals see only their own concepts. Handicaps, therefore, are self-imposed limitations. They can be broken only by our own consent. The awakening, clarifying, enlarging of Truth, Christ, is a barrier to such. Truth other than the closed door of our thought, the one handicap we may erect in false consciousness. The truth of man's infinite capacities will occupy our consciousness as we dispose of the obstructions that put there. Why, then, should we be hindered? Better still, we may obtain a point in understanding where we can realize the absence of the illusion—realize that there is, in reality, no barrier to our progress and achievement. The highest overcoming is the realization of the fact that the limitation we may actually prevent the formation of the curable and preventable. Never acknowledge a handicap! Be sure so long as anything can hinder you, do not let it hinder you. But what can hinder you? Is the seeming handicap an employer, a husband, a wife, a climatic condition, all either too bad or perhaps too humanly good? Is it envy, resentment, person, place, or thing? Who did hinder you that you should not obey the truth? Bear in mind, the promises are to him that overcomes, not to him that acknowledges and bows before handicaps.

Health is one aspect of man's infinite capacities, the possession and reflection of wholeness, the perfect being and functioning of Mind's idea, health, holding the condition of the continuous, eternal condition of man. Health is your being, and mine, and yours. Nothing can be put to it and nothing taken away. Disease is a misunderstanding of man's infinite capacity to receive and reflect, and based on limitations, for such laws are, in effect, denials of man's God-given dominion over all. How does God handle error? By remaining exclusively good, by constituting all-inclusive Truth, i. e., by refusing space, place, time, or space, to any infinite presence does not permit existence to time or space—hence error, being limited to time or space for expression, has no real existence. Man, being the expression of infinite Presence, handles error as an God handles it, so to speak, by making nothing of it. And so must we handle it. God is "of purer eyes than to behold evil," and even so, the real man can not look on iniquity. What are the so-called claims of error? First, that evil exists, and that it acts—comes to us as self-own

thought, claiming to be "I," comes claiming possession of us, and we possessing it. All these lies are a libel on man, who is the expression of good alone. How can we work most effectively in Christian Science practice? There are no impediments to our work: Truth other than those we saddle upon ourselves. We read in Science and Health, and in the Bible, the Way, and then omit, or refuse to walk in that way, thus limiting ourselves to the letter, which alone kills, Jesus said, "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed" (in action). Do we follow that simple process? Let us see, did we follow that? "Take no thought. . . for your body?" and yet do we not fail to continue in his word by recitals of body conditions, sometimes good conditions, but oftentimes bad? How much of our thought is centered on that same body? And how much time and attention do we devote to it! We should deal with the physical body only in the intent and effort to overcome its limitations, and to replace them with the illumination of man's rights, good and detailed. To discuss and relate, or even to recognize error, except incidentally to its destruction, is to magnify it and give it activity, place and power. Also, to give error a past is equivalent to giving it a future. We ought to put into our life practice Mrs. Eddy's wise counsel to square accounts with each passing hour. If we concede and dwell upon error's history, we cannot then limit it to the past but must give it a possible presence. Shakespeare indicates that folly when Othello declares: "To mourn a mischief that is past and gone is the next way to draw new mischief on."

Are the pleasures of sense a hindrance to our progress? Do they act as a limitation to our spiritual growth? Mrs. Eddy has written in "Miscellaneous Writings" (p. 352): "And pleasure is no crime except when it strengthens the influence of bad inclinations or lessens the activities of virtue." The parable of the sower Jesus told how some grain fell upon ground wherein thorns sprang up and choked the good seed. The thorns of error will not grow in the soil of a sweetened, spiritualized consciousness. Dear friends, let us hedge not ourselves about with pleasures, nor even with a surfeit of harmless pleasures. Let us put upon ourselves the only wholesome laws of limitation there can be, namely, the limitation against error. Such restrictions make for sanity, normality, moderation, continence, and right relations in human life. Limitation of error is always right—indeed error has in and of itself its sharp limitations. It is not real, or true, or satisfying, and it cannot be declared error. You can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth." The illimitable Truth means limits to error, in fact, its nothingness.

We hear a great deal about inferiority complex, and we should talk little of it at all about it. Christian Science recognizes no such state of mind. An inferiority complex is a denial of man's infinite capacities. The real man knows he is neither inferior nor superior to his fellow man; but he does yet himself as capable. Certainly we should never acknowledge in ourselves or others a hopeless lack of measurements to mortal mind's standards. David indulged no inferiority complex when he refused armor and weapons for his own protection. Rather he knew, through previous and through demonstration, that he had equipment adequate to destroy Goliath and, so furnished, he eliminated the giant error with apparent ease. Anyone who indulges the lie of limitation called inferiority complex may be led into the greater error of the camouflage of egotism, selfishness, bombast, hypocrisy.

Any sense of limitation in one direction of thought and life may tend to induce, manifest in, or increase sense of limitation in other directions—directions which may be quite dissimilar and of no immediate relation. Thus a limitation in one's thought of money may account for more than a lack of supply; it may also account for a lack of health, a lack of opportunity, of initiative, of ambition. All error has attraction for error and seeks its affinity. All errors are related, correlated, and interrelated. The little foxes that spoil the vines are first coming to the vines that are on the fold. Limitation is a state of false consciousness and may be manifested in any given direction of thought and experience. At most the human sense of riches is limited. The true wealth is in expansion of thought, in mental unfoldment, not in accretion. Wealth is literally more in giving than in receiving, because the former is primary, thus: Giving and receiving are one, and the one is giving. Hence the folly of limitation in giving, or imagining loss in giving. And yet accretion takes on a spiritual significance when considered as the laying up of treasures in consciousness, when considered as that wealth of ideas, a glimpse of which caused Paul to exclaim in awe and wonderment: "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God!"

Our Present Position. Where does humanity stand today? Mrs. Eddy has defined our present position in his varying degrees in Science and Health, p. 597: "Loneliness; doubt; darkness. Spontaneity of thought and idea; the vestibule in which a material sense of things disappears, and spiritual sense unfolds. The great facts of existence. Mrs. Eddy, in her revelation of Truth to mankind, was far in advance of the poet's delineation of mortal man in these lines from "The Tempest": "We are such stuff As dreams are made on, and our little life is rounded with a sleep."

Awakening from the mesmeric limitations of time and space, the Christian Scientist throws off doubt, loneliness, and darkness. The limits of

human concepts, endurance, and achievement are broken down; deficiencies of body and handi-crafts of temperament, heredity, congenital defects, chronicity and tenacity of evil habits and conditions, climate, environment, marital discord—all of error's legion of alleged hindrances are left in the hypnotic realm of the unreal, the wilderness of negation, of nothingness.

The student learns, in the light of that spontaneity of thought and action which is Christian Science, that any sense of handicap is a mistake, but he takes courage in the assurance that mistakes are no hindrance. He cries in triumph with the prophet: "Rejoice not against me, O mine enemy; when I fall, I shall arise. All the effort of mortal mind to hedge its creation about with limits conpires to induce the victim to say, 'I can't.' Moses conditioned his own potency to lead his people out of bondage. Solomon demurred when he was made king and protested his insufficiency. Peter allowed fear of limitation to cause him to sink. But Christ Jesus acknowledged no arguments of limitation whatsoever. When he started for the shore of the lake, he was there immediately. When he needed money, he possessed it. His entire ministry was filled with overcoming lies of limitation through his knowledge of man's infinite capacities; and he pursued his triumphant course even to the rejection of the last limitation, death. He knew that his only need was to know that he needed nothing, indeed, that he possessed all blessedness. He was the Way, our example, and we find ourselves at our several positions along that line of his pathway. No room for discouragement here, my friend! Listen to the glorious song of Isaiah as he beholds the wilderness, "Upon the land of my people (human consciousness) shall come up thorns and briars (the senses of limitation); yea, upon all the houses of joy (material pleasures) shall be a habitation of desolation (body): Until the spirit be poured upon us from on high, and the wilderness be a fruitful field (an enlightened mentality), and the fruitful field be counted for a forest. Then judgment shall be in the wilderness, and righteousness remain in the fruitful field (spiritualized consciousness). And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever. And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in quietness and confidence, because they shall have made a firm foundation under them, which shall not be moved." (Isaiah 61:1-6)

She Who Leads the Way. Mary Baker Eddy's ability to discern, through divine intelligence, through the omnipresence of Mind what was in man; to read human thought—her own and others—and to divide between good and evil in human consciousness, appeared early in her life and grew with her spiritual mindedness into a capacity to rebuke evil and choose good. Thus her great heart of sympathy for her fellow man went out in compassion and in blessing to the erring and the suffering. She was able to minister to those with whom she came in contact. Indeed, through her discovery of Christian Science, through her writings, and through the great religious movement she founded and established, she was able to bring succor to the whole world. This mental discernment she invariably used for good. But the evil minded, self-convinced yet unrepentant, turned from her presence with misrepresentations and persecutions. Thus were hatched the lies about her, some of which are repeated today by the ignorant and malicious. Christian Scientists enter no defense of their leader, the world's greatest later-day friend and benefactor, other than the open book of her life, and her published works. These are her own words as found in Miscellaneous Writings (p. 273): "There is great joy in this consciousness, that throughout my labors, and in my history as connected with the Cause of Christian Science, it can be proven that I have never given occasion for a single censo, or for any motives and acts are understood and seen as my Father seeth them."

Christian Scientists know what Mrs. Eddy has done for them, and for all the human race; they know that through a Christliness as rare as it was great, they have overcome some of the limitations of her time, environment, sex, physical frailty, ill health, accretions, poverty, opposition from Church and State laws,—made her worthy to lead the way in the footsteps of Truth. And they ask no greater boon than to be permitted to walk in that path she trod while following the Master in the "passage from sense to Soul, from a material sense of existence to the spiritual, up to the glory prepared for them who love God." (Science and Health, p. 565).

Our Aim. Our aim, then, should be to strive for the detection and rejection of error in human consciousness that we may recognize and realize that limit less life here and now. Even as Christ Jesus knew, so may we know who is the error in human thought in order to destroy it. To that end Mrs. Eddy has given us an assuring line in Science and Health (p. 94): "An approximation of this discernment indicates spiritual growth and union with the infinite capacities of the one Mind."

Jesus said: "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall also love one another." In that exalted conscious union and communion will omnipresence be yours. Mrs. Eddy has expressed it in Science and Health, p. 200: "Abound with his own being and with the reality of things," the Christian Scientist will encounter no barrier to demonstration, to the restorative effect of Truth on human minds and bodies, and he will find that to attainment in every direction of good.

"O the Love divine that plucks us From the human agony! O the Master's glory won thus, O that dawn on you and me! And the bliss of blotted-out sin And the working hitherto— Shall we share it—do we walk in Spirit faith the way thereto?" (Message for 1901, p. 35).

Science Lecture Printed Verbatim. Because of the interest shown by the large crowd that gathered at the Woman's club house Monday evening to hear Dr. John M. Tutt's lecture, the Torrance Herald is pleased to present the noted doctor's discussion of "The Revelation of Man's Infinite Capacities" exactly as it was given. The lecture in the adjoining columns reveals the fact that Dr. Tutt has made a thorough study of his subject and those who attended the meeting will attest that he presented it with force and directness.

Weird Names Came as Heritage from California '49ers. By the United Press. "Sister Elsie Freeze out Belly Ache Springs Holy Jim Live Yankee Lines Longer Happy Hollow Applause." And the United States forest service in San Francisco cried for help. Investigation proved that the telegram quoted above was merely a list of names which were to be placed on sign posts to mark places. Other odd ones were: Breakneck Canyon, Buck Fever Camp, Crank Springs, Devil's Den, Dog Town, Dismal Creek, Devil's Mush Pot, Frying Pan, Lager Beer Point, Tantrum Glade, Tangletoot Canyon and a few not so polite.

JUST TOO MUCH. By the United Press. SANTA BARBARA.—When someone drained the gas tank, stole a seat and tampered with a county tractor, Sam Stanwood blamed it on "kids." But when they threw the gear shift knob into the transmission box, Stanwood lost his temper and called the police.

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